

Coates Lodge #102
Masonic Temple
114 North Washington Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

D-295
1881

Easton's Masonic Temple uses Italianate motifs to express the buildings's ceremonial functions. The three story building is of a lovely light orange brick with white stone details.

There is a shallow front gable with a single eye, a symbol of the order; tall chimneys rise at each side walls. The lodge room is on the third floor and offices on the first and second.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2102954610
T-295

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Masonic Temple

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

114 North Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ MUSEUM

☒ COMMERCIAL

☐ PARK

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ MILITARY

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trustees of Coates Lodge #102

Telephone #: 301-822-3085

STREET & NUMBER c/o Walter J. Harmsen

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 209

Folio #: 311

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This building is another ceremonial lodge building which corresponds, roughly, in age to the Odd Fellows building on South Washington Street (T-1). It is a three-story flat fronted brick building which achieves its lively appearance by the ornamental use of brick.

The building is three bays in width and six bays deep. Its main entrance is in its center bay. An entablature over the one bay entrance porch bears the date 1881, the date of the original building, and 1930, the date of the addition to the rear, plus the inscription "Masonic Temple". First floor windows are double with one over one sashes and segmentally arched openings. Stone keystones and haunches enrich the openings and pierced work is used to infill above the sashes. Second floor windows are treated as pairs. The center windows are double with brick arches and pierce work similiar to that on the floor below. Windows in the side bays have one over one sashes and flat brick arches. They are joined, visually, by a blind, brick arch. Between the pairs is a recessed ornamental panel of brick.

The first and second floors of this structure are used as offices. The third floor, however, contains the lodge room and the treatment of the exterior reflects the ceremonial nature of the interior meeting room. A gable end faces the street, accommodating the high ceilinged space inside. This gable is treated with bands of ornamental brick, either molded in a floral motif on laid to resemble dentils or slots in the brick. There is an eye, symbol of the Masonic Lodge, carved in relief and centered under a round arch in the gable. The windows of the lodge room are tripartite with a segmental brick arch and decorative keystone and corner blocks. Stone shields bearing symbols of the order and deep slots in brick further emphasize the upper floor.

The main roof of the structure is a shallow gable roof, with its ridge parallel to the street; massive chimneys stand on the gable ends; their deep, corbelled cap and tall base magnify the importance of the building on the street and enliven its skyline of the street.

In 1931, a rear addition was built by the Order of Masons; it is also of brick, nine bays deep and three stories in height. A simple austere building, the only relief in the common bond brick walls are the casement windows evenly spaced in each bay. On the third floor, square, colored and patterned glass windows are used to light the meeting room. The flat-roofed addition was designed by an architect, Frank Ross, who also designed additions for the Maryland National Bank Building and the Talbot County Court House.

On the interior, the first two floors are offices. The old meeting room has a high ceiling and huge exposed roof trusses which resemble those used in the Odd Fellows Hall. The present meeting room is in the 1930 addition; its classical details are complimented by a cove ceiling.

The light orange brick of the front facade contrasts with the white stone detailings. There is an attractive iron fence along the sidewalk. The structure is very well maintained.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1881 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Trustees of Coates Lodge #102

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building is significant for its architecture. A tall, colorful structure, it represents an adaptation of Italianate motifs to a ceremonial building. Its position on the major street reminds the town of the popularity and importance of the fraternal organization which constructed it.

Freemasonry has existed on the Eastern Shore since the eighteenth century. With five active lodges in 1787, Dr. John Coates formed the first Grand Lodge of Masons in Maryland, having received a dispensation from Pennsylvania for a charter. Although named for Dr. Coates, the Easton Lodge, #102, was not founded until May 12, 1855, the third lodge to have been formed in Easton since the late eighteenth century; it has met continuously since that time. The group first met in the Talbot County Court House building, the present structure in 1881. Growing membership required the addition constructed in 1930-31.

L86/F381 J. Frank Bateman took title to this property in 1879 for \$1200.00. At that time, there seem to have been two small buildings. Charles H. Stewart had bought these lots from the estate of Miss Ann Smith in 1866. Construction of the new Masonic Temple started at once, as the deed of 1881 from Baltimore to the Trustees of Coates Lodge speaks of the lots now covered by the new Masonic Building. The deed was re-confirmed in 1927.

L73/F230

L91/F208

L209/F311

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.
 Garey, George and Ellwood Patchett. History of Easton, (Easton, Maryland:
 Gazette Steam Book for Job Office), 1881. Reprinted by Historic
 Easton, Incorporated, January 1974.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

None

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

September 23, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,
301-822-2706 President

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

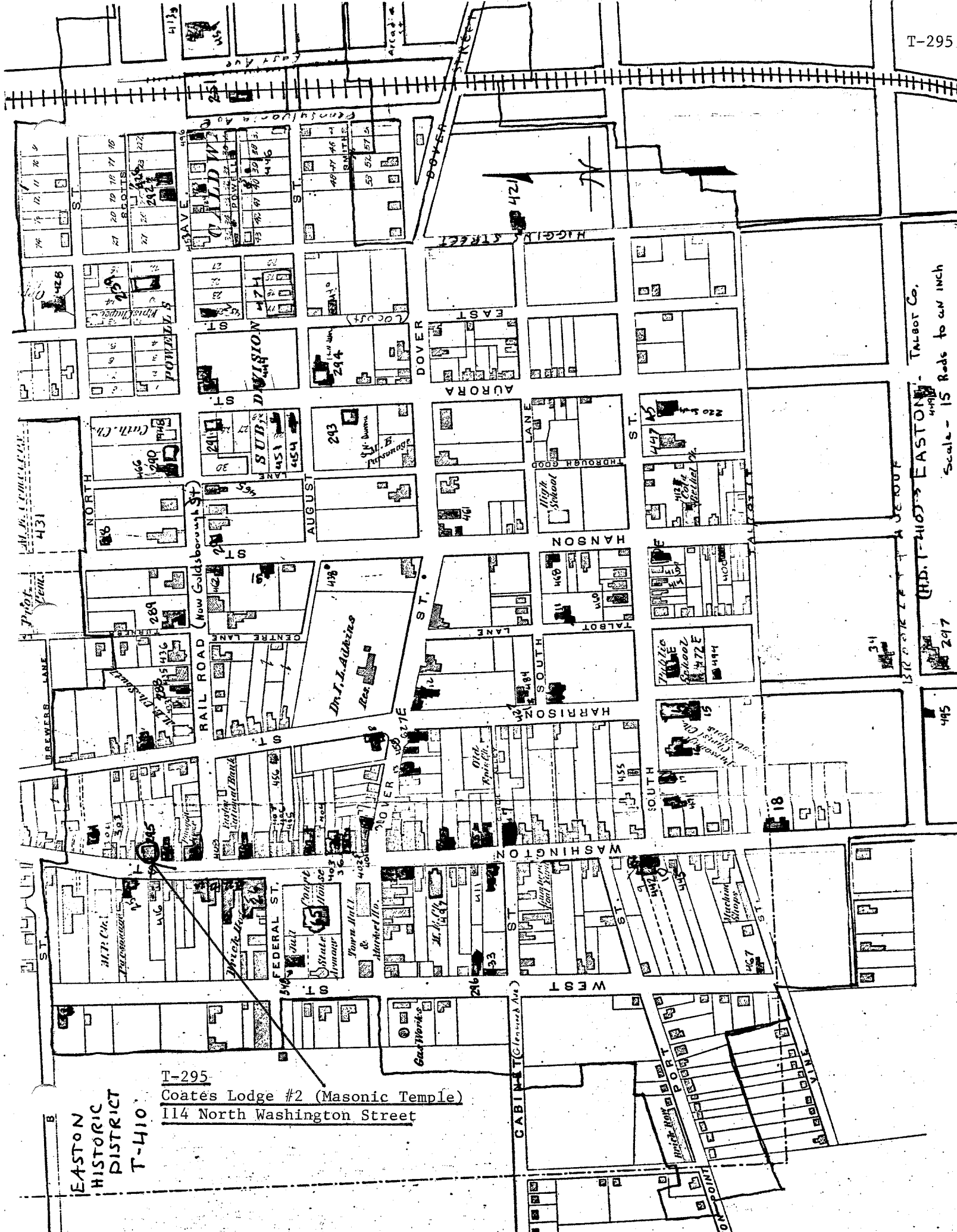
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-410

Coates Lodge #2 (Masonic Temple)
114 North Washington Street

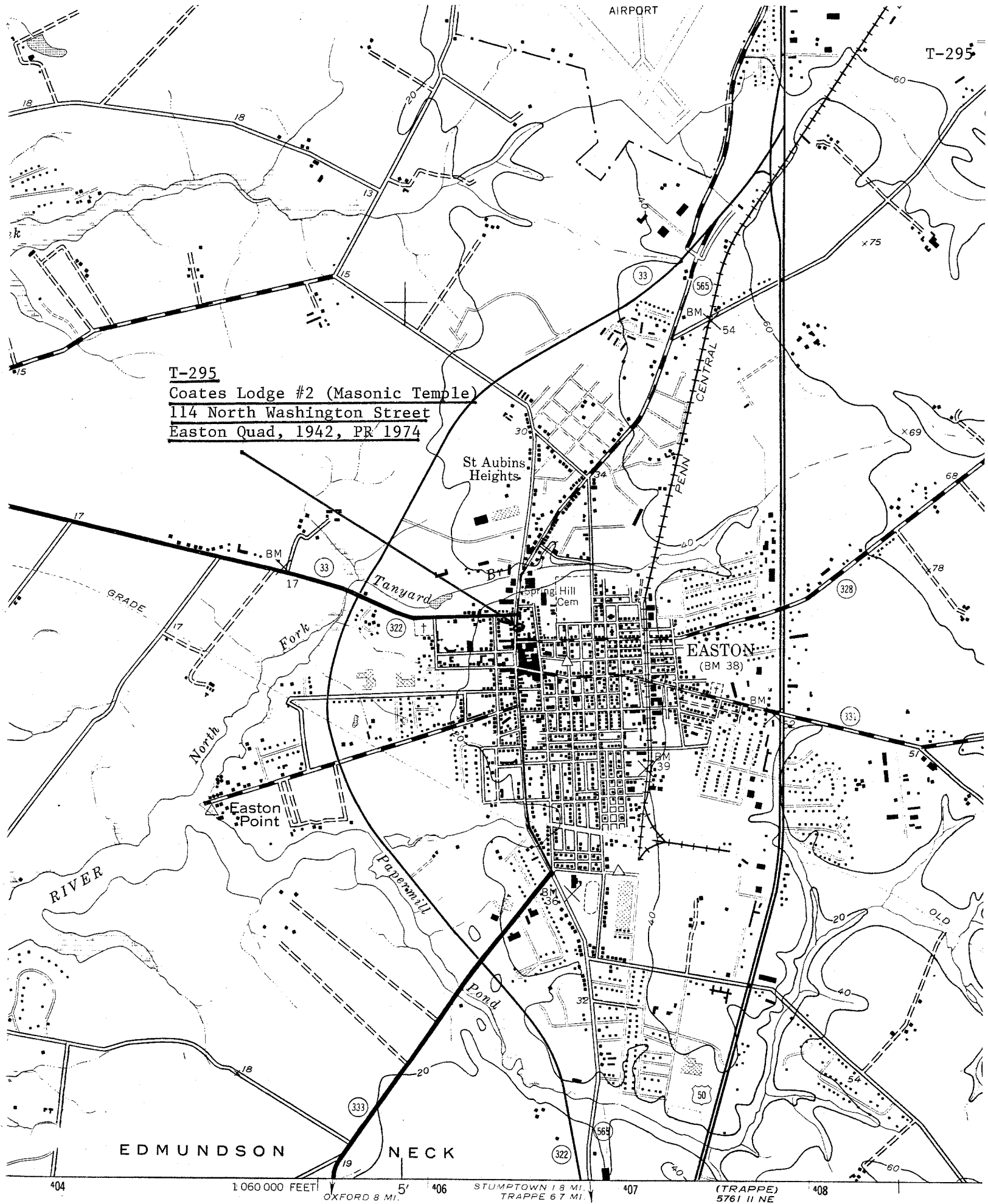


T-295

Coates Lodge #2 (Masonic Temple)

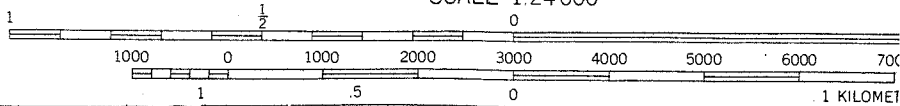
114 North Washington Street

Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



vey

metric methods





18 X 2.60

52%

295

MASONIC BUILDING

114 N. WASHINGTON STREET

EASTON, MD

T-295

M.L.F.
August 1976

8. 7/15 Campbell
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND